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|  |  | Vilas County Sheriff |
|  |  | 330 Court Street Eagle River, WI 545421 |

Press Release

For Immediate Release

For more information contact:

Joseph Fath, Vilas County Sheriff

715-479-4441

Snowmobile Fatality

Saturday, February 22, St Germain, WI – Vilas County

At 4:09 AM the Vilas County 911 received a 911 call reporting a snowmobile vs. tree accident near the shoreline on Little St Germain Lake in the Town of St Germain, Vilas County, WI. The initial report was a snowmobile had struck a tree and the operator was not breathing.

Upon arrival of Emergency services, it was determined the operator was deceased. The operator was identified as a 38-year-old male from Illinois. The name of the deceased is not being released at this time.

During this incident, a male subject was out looking for the crash scene on his snowmobile and went through the ice on Little St Germain Lake. This male was able to get out of the water and has no injuries.

St Germain Fire, Rescue and Ambulance, Vilas County Sheriff’s Office, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Vilas County Medical Examiner responded to this accident.

The accident is still under investigation.

Lt. Jeff Schaub

Vilas County Sheriff’s Office

20-002116

02/24/20 11:15 AM Update: The victim in this snowmobile crash is Richard J Hetsley, 38 YOA from Maple Park, IL.